

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached "Replacement Sheet" of drawings includes changes to Figure 1 and adds new Figures 7 and 8. The attached "Replacement Sheet," which includes Figures 1 and 7-8, replaces the original sheet including Figure 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-14 are now pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10, and 12-13 are amended herein. Claim 7 is cancelled herein. Support for the amendments and additions can be found throughout the application, drawings and claims as originally filed and, as such, no new matter has been presented. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

DRAWINGS

The drawings stand objected to for certain informalities. In particular, the Examiner states that the drawings must show every feature specified in the claims. In the "Replacement Sheet" enclosed herein, Figure 1 is amended to shown an adhesive 14 between column 2 and cantilever arm 3. Support for this addition is found, e.g., in the present application at page 8, lines 1-10.

Furthermore, in the "Replacement Sheet" enclosed herein, Figures 7 and 8 are added. Figure 7 illustrates a cross section of a cantilever arm 3' along line A-A of Figure 1. In particular, the cantilever arm 3' of Figure 7 includes a core 11' and an outer envelope 12'. Additionally, Figure 8 illustrates a cross section of cantilever arm 3 along line A-A of Figure 1 including a solid body 13. Support for this additions is found in the originally filed text of the specification, e.g., beginning at page 6, line 34.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that every feature in the claims is shown in the drawings. Therefore, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 4 are amended herein. By these amendments, Applicants submit that the rejection with regards to claims 1 and 4 has been rendered moot.

Claim 14 calls for the cantilever arm to be connected to the column by a cast mineral. Referring to page 8, lines 1-10 of the present application, the cantilever arm may be fastened to the column by an adhesive, and a cast mineral may be used as the adhesive. Cast mineral may act as an adhesive as it is a mixture including quartz with epoxy or other reactive resins (see, e.g., page 7, lines 10-19 of the present application). Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claim 14 is in conformance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 7, 10, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Alschweig (DE 100 51 707). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 calls for a device for carrying and fastening a robot, the device having a foot, a column, and at least one cantilever arm, the column including at least one niche for accommodating components of control electronics and/or pneumatic components for

the robot. For example, referring to Figure 1, a niche 20 in a column 2 of the present application is illustrated. According to the principles of the present application, such a niche 20 can make having a separate switch cabinet for the device unnecessary (see, e.g., page 6, lines 6-24 of the present application), which in turn greatly reduces the space requirement (see, e.g., page 3, lines 14-18 of the present application) without disturbing the vibration damping effect (see, e.g., page 3, lines 8-12 of the present application). Therefore, it is possible to arrange a plurality of robots in a space saving manner in a production line as illustrated, for example, in Figures 4 and 5 of the present application.

Applicants submit that Alschweig does not disclose a column having at least one niche for accommodating components of control electronics and/or pneumatic components for the robot as specifically recited in claim 1 of the present application. In contrast to the present application, the vertical column section 5 of Alschweig (which corresponds to the claimed column) is shown as a hollow body having a square cross section, the hollow body being completely outpoured with cast mineral (see claim 1 and column 2, lines 11-14 of Alschweig). This feature is described in Alschweig as an important inventive feature to meet the required damping performance together with the required stability (see column 2, lines 18-28 of Alschweig). Therefore, Applicants submit that Alschweig does not disclose or otherwise suggest a column having at least one niche as specifically recited in claim 1 of the present application. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claim 1 is not anticipated by Alschweig and that claim 1 should be patentable.

Claims 2-3, 10, and 12 depend on claim 1 and, therefore, for at least the same reasons, should be patentable.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alschweig in view of Ward (U.S. Pat. No. 6,623,169). Claims 5 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alschweig in view of Sheehan et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2001/0042424). Claims 6, 8, 9, and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alschweig.

Claims 4-6, 8-9, and 11-14 depend on claim 1 and, therefore, for at least the same reasons, should be patentable.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

CONCLUSION

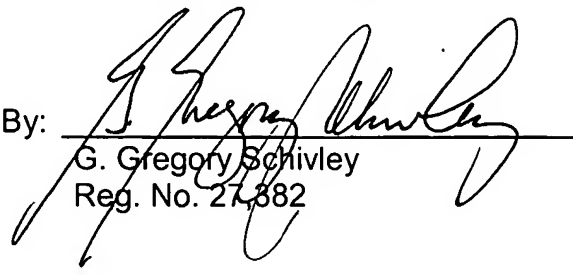
It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner

believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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